

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-22 were originally filed in this patent application. In the first office action dated 1/16/03, all claims were rejected. In response to the first office action, a Request for Reconsideration was filed on 04/16/03. In the pending office action, claims 1, 6-7, 9, 12, 16-17 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,978,689 to Tuoriniemi *et al.* (hereinafter “Tuoriniemi”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,122,011 to Dias *et al.* (hereinafter “Dias”) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,152,012 to Schwob. Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tuoriniemi and Dias in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,416,774 to Shigematsu *et al.* (hereinafter “Shigematsu”). Claims 3-4, 10-11, 13-14 and 20-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Tuoriniemi, Dias, Shigematsu, U.S. Patent No. 6,239,794 to Yuen *et al.* (hereinafter “Yuen”), U.S. Patent No. 6,530,083 to Liebenow, and U.S. Patent No. 6,199,076 to Logan *et al.* (hereinafter “Logan”). Claims 5 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Tuoriniemi, Dias, Shigematsu, Yuen, and U.S. Patent No. 6,177,931 to Alexander *et al.* (hereinafter “Alexander”). Claims 8, 18 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Tuoriniemi, Dias, Alexander and Logan. No claim was allowed. Claims 1-22 as originally filed are currently pending.